

Message Text

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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DAILY PRESS BRIEFING AUGUST 5

NO. 4

AUGUST 5 DAILY BRIEFING WAS UNUSUALLY LONG AND DOMINATED BY THREE SUBJECTS: (1) ANNOUNCEMENT OF SIGNING OF U.S.- EGYPT AND U.S.-ISRAELI NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENTS, (2) EVANS AND NOVAK STORY "RUSSIA: ANOTHER BROKEN PROMISE" APPEARING IN WASHINGTON POST, AND (3) WOMEN'S CLASS ACTION SUIT. DEPY SPOKESMAN'S ANSWERS FOLLOWED GUIDANCES ON THESE SUBJECTS, PER FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS.

(1) NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS: THE NUCLEAR POWER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND EGYPT, AND THE U.S. AND ISRAEL, HAVE NOW BEEN INITIALLED. THE EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT WAS INITIALLED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON (AUGUST 4) IN THE DEPARTMENT BY THE EGYPTIAN CHARGE MOHAMAD EISSA, AND THE ISRAELI AGREEMENT THIS MORNING (AUGUST 5) IN THE DEPARTMENT BY THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR, SIMCHA DINITZ. ON THE AMERICAN SIDE, BOTH AGREEMENTS WERE INITIALLED BY GERARD HELFICH, DIRECTOR OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION OF ERDA

(ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION) AND DIXON B. HOYLE, ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE BUREAU OF OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS.

INITIALLING SIGNIFIES AGREEMENT AT NEGOTIATING LEVEL ON LENGTH OF TEXT. SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENTS COMES LATER IN PROCESS. ATOMIC ENERGY ACT PROVIDES THAT ERDA PREPARE A PACKAGE FOR TRANSMISSION TO PRESIDENT. CANNOT TELL AT THIS POINT WHEN ERDA PROCESS WILL BE COMPLETED BUT WE WOULD EXPECT IT WOULD BE NO LONGER THAN A FEW WEEKS. FOLLOWING PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL, AGREEMENTS WOULD BE SIGNED AND SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS FOR REQUIRED 60-DAY LEGISLATIVE REVIEW. DURING THIS PERIOD AGREEMENTS REFERRED TO JOINT ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE FOR REPORT WITHIN 30 DAYS. FULL CONGRESS MAY DISAPPROVE BY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION. AGREEMENTS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC WHEN THEY ARE SIGNED AND SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS, AND UNTIL THEN WE HAVE NOTHING TO ADD TO WHAT SPOKESMAN SAID PREVIOUSLY. PRINCIPLES INCORPORATED IN AGREEMENTS SPELLED OUT IN JOINT AMERICAN-EGYPTIAN STATEMENT ON COOPERATION IN PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY ON NOVEMBER 5, 1975. IMPORTANT POINTS ARE THAT BOTH AGREEMENTS ARE IDENTICAL IN CONTENT AND CONTAIN MOST STRINGENT SAFEGUARDS OF ANY OF OUR NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS.

QUESTIONS AROSE REGARDING WHY WE COULD NOT REVEAL SUBSTANCE OF AGREEMENTS AT THIS TIME WHEN SO MUCH ALREADY KNOWN. QUESTION CONCERNING NUMBER AND POWER OF REACTOR STATIONS SUBSEQUENTLY CLARIFIED BY ANSWER PROVIDED IN AFTERNOON STATING THAT AGREEMENTS PROVIDING FOR TWO REACTORS FOR EACH COUNTRY WITH CEILING CAPACITY OF 1970 MEGAWATS FOR EACH COUNTRY. EACH OF TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD DECIDE FOR ITSELF WHETHER TOTAL POWER OF ITS TWO REACTORS REACHED THIS CEILING.

(2) EVANS-NOVAK ARTICLE: USG IS ANALYZING DATA WHICH INDICATE THAT SOVIET UNION DETONATED UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSION AT THE SEMIPALATINSK TEST SITE ON JULY 4 AND IN VICINITY OF AZGIR NEAR CASPIAN SEA JULY 29. OUR KNOWLEDGE OF SEISMIC COUPLING AND OTHER GEOLOGICAL CHARACTER-
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ISTICS OF THESE AREAS IS NOT EXACT. BAND OF UNCERTAINTY EXISTS AS TO YIELDS OF THESE EXPLOSIONS. BAND EXTENDED ABOVE AND BELOW 150 KT. ASSESSMENT OF DATA CONTINUOUS AND AT THIS POINT NO DEFINITE CONCLUSION HAS BEEN REACHED AS TO SIZE OF EXPLOSIONS. TTB/PNE CONTAINED PROVISIONS FOR CERTAIN DATA EXCHANGE INFORMATION WHICH WILL IMPROVE OUR ABILITY TO MAKE THESE YIELD MEASUREMENTS ONCE TREATIES TAKE EFFECT.

SINCE TTB/PNE HAVE JUST BEEN SENT TO CONGRESS FOR ADVICE AND CONSENT, THRESHOLD IS NOT YET LEGALLY BINDING ON EITHER PARTY. IF OUR ANALYSIS RESULTS IN CONCLUSION THAT EITHER EXPLOSION HAS YIELD IN EXCESS OF 150 KT THRESHOLD, THIS WOULD BE MATTER FOR CONSULTATION WITH USSR AS TO PERFORMANCE OF PARTIES DURING TIME BETWEEN SIGNING AND RATIFICATION. USUAL PRACTICE IS THAT DURING PERIOD BETWEEN SIGNING OF TREATIES AND THEIR ENTRY INTO FORCE, PARTIES WILL NOT BEHAVE IN A MANNER INCONSISTENT WITH PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF TREATIES.

THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE QUESTIONING REGARDING EXISTENCE OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SOVIETS ON ISSUE OF 150 KT THRESHOLD. DEPY SPOKESMAN CONTINUED TO CITE CONSULTATION WITH SOVIETS REGARDING THEIR PERFORMANCE DURING PERIOD BETWEEN SIGNING AND RATIFICATION, SHOULD ANALYSIS OF RESULTS LEAD TO CONCLUSION THAT EXPLOSIONS WERE IN EXCESS OF THIS THRESHOLD. FOLLOWING BRIEFING ANSWER POSTED TO QUESTION TAKEN, AS FOLLOWS:

"Q: WAS THERE AN INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SOVIETS ON THIS ISSUE?

A: THE 150 KT LIMIT IN THE TTB TREATY WAS INTENDED TO COME INTO EFFECT ON MARCH 31 OF THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, WE HAD NOT COMPLETED THE PNE NEGOTIATIONS BY THAT DATE, WHICH WE HAD SPECIFIED AS AN ESSENTIAL CONDITION PRIOR TO HAVING THE TTB TREATY TAKE EFFECT. THE U.S. STATED THAT FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE IT HAD NO PLANS FOR TESTS ABOVE THE 150 KT THRESHOLD AND THE SOVIET SIDE SAID THAT IT DID NOT INTEND TO TAKE ANY ACTION INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE U.S. WOULD ACT

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IN THE SAME WAY."

(3) WOMEN'S EEO CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AGAINST DEPARTMENT: ALTHOUGH COPIES OF COMPLAINT FILED WITH U.S. DISTRICT COURT AUGUST 3 NOT YET RECEIVED, WE UNDERSTAND THIS EVOLVED FROM REJECTION ON PROCEDURAL GROUNDS OF EEO CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FILED ADMINISTRATIVELY BY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE (LATER IDENTIFIED, IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS, AS ALISON PALMER).

WE UNDERSTAND COMPLAINT ALLEGES GENERAL CHARGE OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN ALL ASPECTS OF EMPLOYMENT -- RECRUITMENT, HIRING, PROMOTION. WE DOUBT THAT COMPLAINT HAS ANY MERIT IN LIGHT OF DEPARTMENT'S SUSTAINED EFFORTS TO PROVIDE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND UPWARD MOBILITY PROGRAMS

FOR WOMEN AND MINORITIES. WE HAVE TAKEN EVERY REASONABLE
STEP TO COMPLY WITH LAW.

DEPY SPOKESMAN TOOK MANY QUESTIONS ON PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN
IN FOREIGN SERVICE, WOMEN IN POSITIONS OF HIGH RESPONSIBI-
LITY, AND DETAILS OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS. (FYI:
FACT SHEET SIMILAR TO THAT PREPARED CONCERNING BLACK EMPLOY-
MENT IN DEPARTMENT IN PREPARATION SINCE EARLY AUGUST 5 AND
WILL BE AVAILABLE AUGUST 6).

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